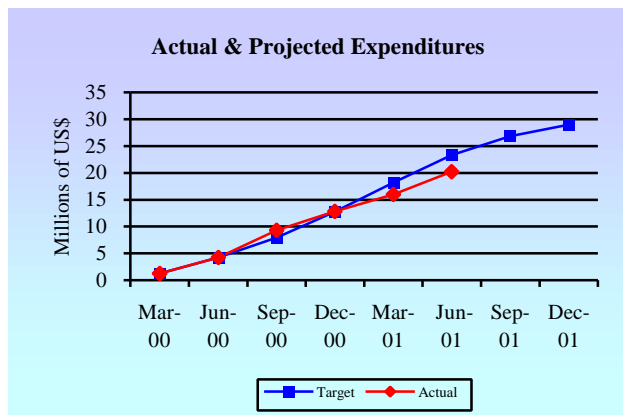


USAID Dominican Republic Supplemental Reconstruction Programs Response to Hurricane Georges, September 1998 Status as of June 30, 2001

MAY 1999 SUPPLEMENTAL RECONSTRUCTION FUNDS	TOTAL BUDGET	OBLIGATIONS	COMMITMENTS	EXPENDITURES
(CACEDRF)	\$29,000,000	\$29,000,000	\$27,830,209	\$20,222,279

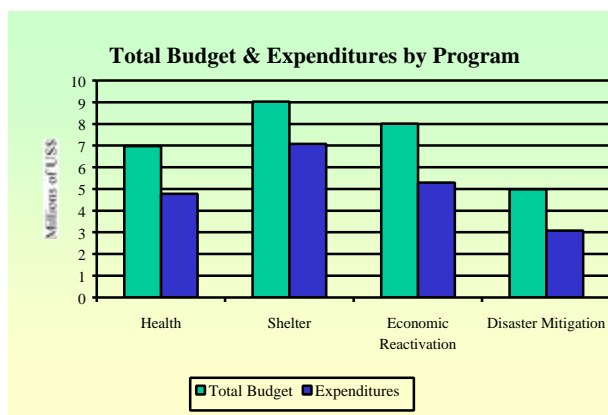


Impact of Hurricane Georges

On September 22, 1998, Hurricane Georges struck the Dominican Republic, damaging nearly 70% of the country and killing more than 200 people. The rise in health problems was immediate and dramatic. Income levels for the rural populations registered a precipitous decline and physical infrastructure that served the entire nation sustained significant damage. Hurricane Georges severely limited the availability of potable water and sanitation facilities, damaged or destroyed 10% of an already deficit housing stock, damaged 90% of the basic food crops, left 600,000 Dominicans in need of food assistance, damaged 50% of the forests, and destroyed 25% of the roads and 60% of the bridges. Economic damages totaled \$3.3 billion.

USAID Initial Response

Immediately after Hurricane Georges struck, USAID provided \$14.8 million in disaster assistance. This assistance provided



emergency food assistance, emergency supplies (e.g. generators, water tanks and water purification tablets), temporary shelters and fast-growing vegetable seeds.

One innovative effort salvaged enough felled timber to repair or reconstruct approximately 3,000 housing units and 2,500 latrines. In addition, USAID reprogrammed \$1.5 million in DA funds to help farmers get back on their feet and \$6 million in Child Survival funds to vaccinate children, establish a surveillance system, repair water and sanitation systems and restore primary health care services prior to Congressional passage of the Supplemental Reconstruction appropriation.

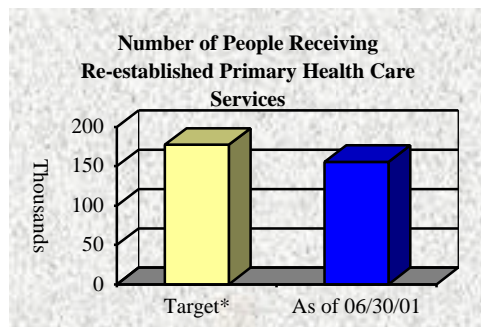
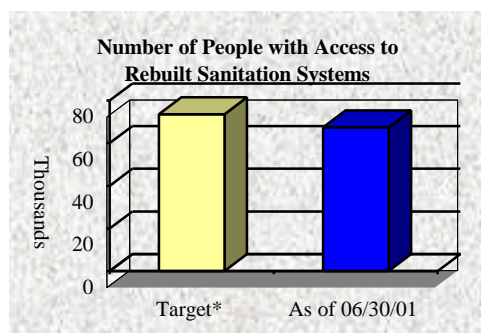
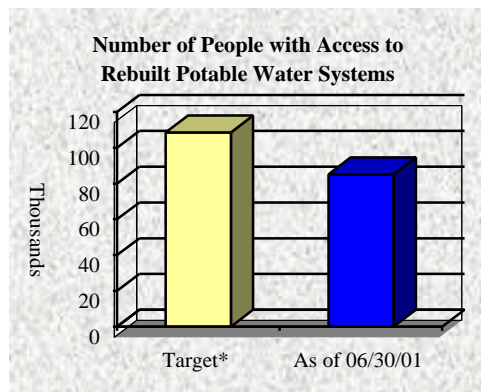
USDA donated 100,000 metric tons of wheat, which generated \$16 million in host-country owned, local currency. These funds have been programmed to assist 60,000 small and medium-scale farmers affected by the hurricane.

Reconstruction Programs

Based on disaster assessments, pledges from other donors and an analysis of USAID's comparative advantage, USAID decided to use Supplemental Funds to support reconstruction in the following areas:

Health

USAID is rebuilding potable water and sanitation systems as well as re-establishing primary health care services. Fifteen U.S. and local NGOs are working in the hardest-hit communities of the Dominican Republic to provide potable water systems for 108,600 people, sanitation systems for 73,500 people, and primary health care services for more than 177,350 people.

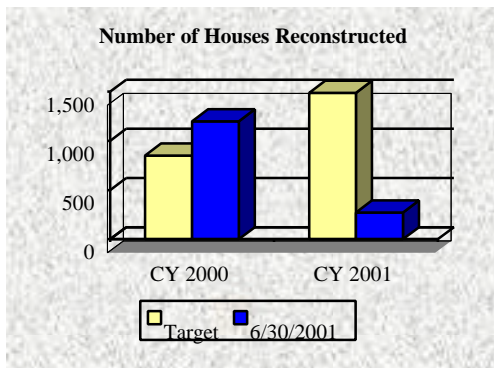
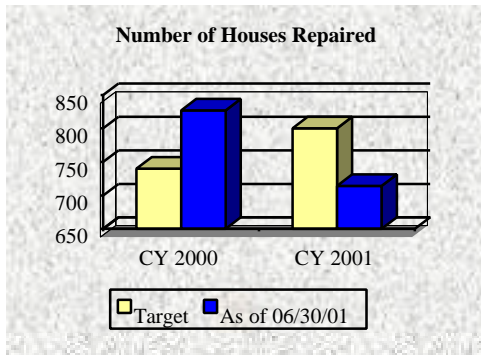


*Target for December 31,2001

- The Dominican Water Authority (INAPA) has completed its financial counterpart commitment to support the Total Community Participation/Disaster Mitigation (TCP) Pilot Projects. INAPA has provided a total of US\$267,000 in counterpart funds. This project is being closely monitored in order to ensure quick implementation and on-time close-out.
- The Environmental Health Project has begun work on the third and final phase of their hygiene behavior change technical assistance. This technical assistance will support INAPA pilot projects by providing the implementing NGOs with validated, prevention-focused hygiene materials. Other countries in the region have demonstrated interest in incorporating these materials into their community-level Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses strategy. This activity has proven to be a model in inter-institutional collaboration with active participation from USAID/Washington, the Mission, Pan-American Health Organization, Ministry of Health, Dominican Water Authority, Peace Corps, Catholic Relief Services and Mujeres en Desarrollo (a local NGO).
- As part of the Reconstruction Program's Exit Strategy, USAID is providing technical assistance to the Dominican Government to develop model projects and focus resources on development in the state sugarcane worker communities that were among the areas hardest hit by the hurricane. Through this technical assistance the Presidential Plan for Poverty Alleviation will orchestrate community interventions with participation from various sectors of the GODR, international donors, private sector, church, NGOs and grassroots community groups.

Shelter

USAID has repaired 1,541 housing units, which meets the program's two-year target. The majority of the repairs were completed in CY2000. USAID is reconstructing a total of 2,339 housing units that will benefit 23,274 people. This total surpasses the original target of 2,250 houses by 89 houses. During this quarter project designs for four new urbanization projects were completed. Ground has been broken in three of the four sites. The Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF) is managing this effort.



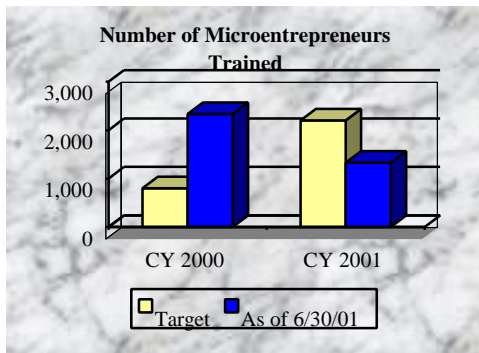
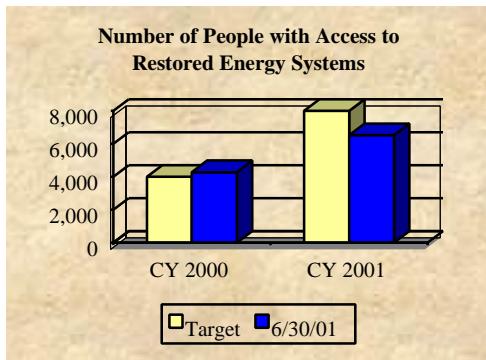
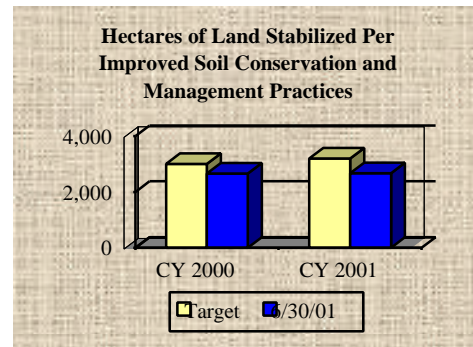
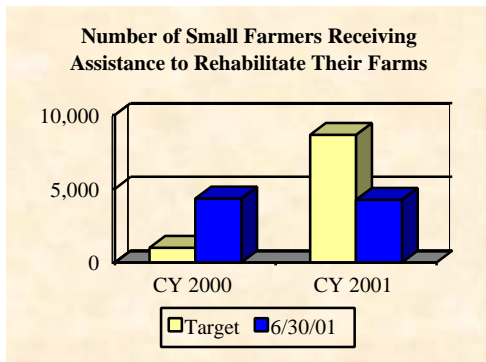
- The National Institute for Housing Assistance (INAVI) has initiated construction of basic infrastructure (water, sanitation, electricity, roads) for a new low-income urbanization housing project of 185 units. The National Housing Institute (INVI) agreed to provide infrastructure for an additional two urbanization projects with a total of 500 units. In San Juan de la Maguana, the urbanization project has completed 266 units and has initiated a third phase with an additional 100 units for hurricane victims still living in shelters. The additional GODR assistance,

totaling \$3.175 M, surpasses the expected counterpart contribution for construction of infrastructure on urbanization projects. NGO partners have contributed all of the land.

- RUDO/Guatemala and USAID/DR continue to support FONDOVIP, a local NGO, in developing policy reform for low-income housing. FONDOVIP completed a study of housing demand in the Dominican Republic.
- NIST completed a manual for improved construction techniques for low-income housing. Based on this manual, HUD will conduct a series of training activities for U.S. and local NGOs working under the Reconstruction Program.
- HUD activities are underway, including a credit program for repairs, retrofits and expansion of existing homes.

Economic Reactivation

USAID signed ten grants that will help 9,650 small farmers re-establish their plots and improve livestock and agricultural productivity practices. Most of the projects are emphasizing traditional cash crops such as coffee, cocoa and plantains. Efforts are underway to provide assistance in marketing of quality product. Additionally, USAID is collaborating with the National Rural Electrification Cooperative Association (NRECA) to restore power to 12,000 people and facilitate formation of service cooperatives to sustain these systems that provide electricity to run water pumps, rural schools and productive commercial uses. USAID, through a local technical university is also training 3,000 microentrepreneurs to restore their productive capacity and to protect their small businesses from future disasters.



Disaster Mitigation

USAID is building on the lessons learned from Hurricane Georges to improve the national system to prevent, mitigate and respond to disasters. The focus is on better coordination and preparation at the national level and on efforts to reduce local community vulnerability. USAID is funding NGO efforts to stabilize and reduce erosion on nearly 6,300 hectares of land through conservation measures, including reforestation and improved management plans.

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is determining flood risks in two watersheds and has set up a schedule to train and provide technical assistance to NGOs on watershed management and drainage control on rural roads. In addition, USACE has helped the GODR establish a dam safety inspection program.
- John Snow, Inc. (JSI) is designing a disaster management logistics system in two pilot provinces and is developing a strategy with Civil Defense and the Ministry of Health to expand the system nationally.
- The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has trained local NGOs and GODR agencies on soil conservation and has provided equipment, observation towers and training for forest fire prevention and control. In addition, USFS is assisting the Dominican Government with forestry management, pest management and policy reform.
- The Peace Corps is training community groups in disaster preparedness and mitigation, including reforestation and soil conservation.
- FEMA is providing technical assistance and training to the Dominican Civil Defense Agency and local communities in disaster preparedness and response. FEMA has completed the design and equipment list for the Civil Defense Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and has offered to help set-up the center once the equipment is purchased. FEMA has assisted the City of Santo

Domingo in its design of an EOC. FEMA has contracted a local NGO to implement their Project Impact model in two communities.

- USGS and NOAA are providing technical assistance to the GODR to improve forecasting, management and mitigation of weather-related natural disasters. NOAA has already completed their plan to improve and upgrade the meteorological component of the early warning system. NOAA has prepared a decision making model for flood control and will provide practical training. In addition, NOAA is sponsoring a Dominican who is attending a Master's program in operation meteorology and hydrology at the University of Costa Rica. USGS will provide the Ministry of Natural Resources with a ground cover map and is providing GIS equipment and training to a number of Dominican Government institutions in GIS clearinghouse technology.
- USAID is working with the International Resources Group (IRG) to coordinate U.S. Government agencies working on reconstruction activities in the Dominican Republic and provide technical assistance to communities to reduce vulnerability. IRG awarded sub-grants to two local NGOs to conduct disaster awareness and preparedness training for 70 communities throughout the Dominican Republic and construct mitigation infrastructure in several densely populated urban communities in Santo Domingo. Eighty-one communities have been trained to date.

Commentary:

- **The graph titled Total Budget and Expenditures by Program reflects slight budget adjustments approved by the GODR. The budget adjustments were made to decrease management costs and increase project funds.**
- **89 additional housing units will be reconstructed by the end of the project. The graph has been adjusted to reflect the change.**